

RESTRICTION

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C.121:
 - I. Claims 1-16, drawn to visual display unit in route guidance system, classified in class 382, subclass 162.
 - II. Claim 17, drawn to historical traffic data acquired from monitored routes together with archive data acquired from non-monitored routes in route guidance system, classified in class 342, subclass 454.
 - III. Claims 18-20, drawn to central route advisory system using traffic forecasting model, classified in class 340, subclass 995.13.
 - IV. Claims 21-22, drawn to an optimal route calculated taking into account the previous travelling direction of the vehicle, classified in class 73, subclass 178R.
 - V. Claims 23-28, drawn to establishing route key-points along the optimal route in route guidance method, classified in class 701, subclass 201.
2. Inventions I, II, III, IV, and V, are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions because: invention I disclose visual display unit in route guidance system; invention II disclose historical traffic data acquired from monitored routes together with archive data acquired from non-monitored routes in route guidance system; invention III disclose central route advisory system using traffic forecasting model; invention IV disclose an optimal route calculated taking into account the previous travelling direction of the vehicle; invention V disclose establishing route key-points along the optimal route in route guidance method.

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3. Because these invention are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalena Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-6968. The examiner can normally be reached on M-W (in a first week of a bi-week), and T-R (in a second week of bi-week) from 7:00AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Khoi H. Tran can be reached on 571-272-6919. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dalena Tran/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3664